16th December 1954]

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am under the impression, Sir, that the hon. Member is in a better position to negotiate with the district board at present than myself."

Tuberculosis Specialist for the General Hospital, Pudukkottai.

* 400 *Q.*—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) why no Tuberculosis Expert has been appointed to the Tuberculosis section of the General Hospital, Pudukkottai in Tiruchirappalli district; and

(*b*) whether this section had any such expert before the merger of the State?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) After the merger of the Pudukkottai State in the Indian Union the Tuberculosis Specialist proceeded on long leave from 5th January 1951 and finally retired on 4th November 1952. Thereafter no specialist has been appointed for want of qualified hands.

" (*b*) There was no separate post of Tuberculosis Specialist sanctioned for this hospital before the merger of the State."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, if the Government are not very serious about appointing an expert what is the earthly use of having separate sections and calling it a T.B. Section? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, at present there are only six beds for T.B. patients. There is now a proposal under consideration for constructing two wards of 18 beds each. When this work is completed, steps will be taken to appoint an Assistant Surgeon with the necessary qualifications and experience."

Grant of agricultural loans in Malabar.

* 401 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the amount of agricultural loans distributed in the taluks of Kottayam, Chirakkal, Wynaad and Kurumbranad in Malabar district during the period 1st May to 1st October 1954?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The amounts of agricultural loans distributed during the period, 1st May 1954 to 1st October 1954, in the four taluks of the Malabar district mentioned are given below :—

	RS.
Kottayam	26,530
Chirakkal	30,925
Wynaad	6,570
Kurumbranad	18,790."